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BINDERS.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Annual Town Meeting

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CLAREMONT,

Cost.....

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March 14th & 15th, 1865;

TOGETHER WITH THE

FINANCIAL REPORT,

AND THE

SCHOOL REPORTS.

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Proceedings

OF THE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.

At a legal Town Meeting, duly notified and held at Claremont, on Tuesday, the fourteenth of March, A. D. 1865, the following officers were chosen :

Moderator.

CHARLES M. BINGHAM.

Town Clerk.

THOMAS R. GOWDEY.

Selectmen.

EDWIN W. TOLLES,
STEPHEN F. ROSSITER,
FRANKLIN NORTON.

Representatives.

IRA COLBY, jr.,
ALFRED TRACY,
WILLIAM E. TUTHERLY,
JAMES P. UPHAM.

Superintending School Committee.

OSMON B. WAY.

Town Treasurer.

CHARLES M. BINGHAM.

Collector of Taxes.

JAMES W. BRADLEY.

Constables.

Alfred Burrill,
George H. Abbott,
Walter H. Smith,
George W. Blodgett,
Ormond D. Blood,
Henry Parmelee,
George W. Redfield,
John Farrington.

Highway Surveyors.

Chester A. Benton,
Reuben Petty,
Philander Wallingford,
Otis Johnson,
George Keyes,
Charles H. Ainsworth,
Austin T. Cowles,
John Markoff,
Paschal Smith,
Josiah Straw,
George R. Carlton,
William Ellis,
George A. Merrill,
Joel G. Davis,
Henry F. Stowell,
Anson Barstow,
Levi R. Chase,
Cyrus A. Leet,
John G. Harriman,
Levi Judkins,
Tolman E. Fifield,
Samuel Veasey,
Stephen Glidden,
Thomas B. Fletcher,
Charles L. Thomas,
Frederick A. Henry,
George Hart,
John Tyler.

Sealer of Leather.

Horace P. Handerson.

Surveyors of Wood.

Walter W. King,
 George W. Blodgett,
 Joseph Osgood,
 Paul Fitch,
 Thomas R. Gowdey,
 Henry A. Redfield,
 George H. Stowell,
 Frederick A. Briggs,
 Sumner Putnam.

Hog Reeves.

Moses Johnson,
 Seth Paul,
 Horace H. Webster,
 Luzerne Farnsworth,
 Tracy Cowles,
 Samuel C. Abbott,
 Edmund Neal,
 Nathan Whitney.

*Fence Viewers.**Sealer of Weights and Measures.*

Thomas R. Gowdey.

Leonard P. Fisher,
 Charles H. Eastman,
 William E. Tutherly.

Surveyors of Lumber.

William D. Morgan,
 Henry Fitch.

Auditors.

Ambrose Cossitt,
 James Goodwin,
 Edward L. Goddard.

Pound Keeper.

Leonard Jones.

VOTES FOR STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS.*For Governor.*

Frederick Smyth, 589
 Edward W. Harrington, 170

For Senator.

John M. Glidden, 587
 Horace Metcalf, 171

For Rail Road Commissioner.

Milan W. Harris, 588
 Orsino A. J. Vaughan, 170

For County Treasurer.

Adolphus Hall, 588
 Lyman Rounsevel, 170

For Representative to Congress.

James W. Patterson, 589
 Harry Bingham, 170

For Register of Deeds.

Henry D. Foster, 587
 Eleazer C. Converse, 171

For Councillor.

John H. Elliott, 588
 Jonathan H. Dickey, 170

For County Commissioner.

Nathan Hall, 588
 William C. True, 170

APPOINTMENTS BY THE SELECTMEN.*Chief Engineer.*

Ormond D. Blood.

James Goodwin,
 George W. Blodgett,
 John M. Whipple,
 William B. Henry.

Assistants.

Walter H. Smith,

VOTES PASSED.

Voted, To raise fifteen hundred dollars for the support of highways and bridges, to be paid in labor the same as last year.

Voted, To raise one thousand dollars in addition to what the law requires for the support of schools.

Voted, That a committee be appointed to report to the town, at its next annual meeting, the history and present condition of the Literary Fund, so called, and that they be directed to furnish a copy of their report to the papers, for publication, two weeks previous to said meeting. *Voted*, Hiram Long, Edward L. Goddard, Thomas J. Harris, for said Committee.

Voted, That the school money be divided sixty dollars to each district, remainder by the scholar.

Voted, To raise the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars for the legal expenses of the town the present year.

Voted, To pay Engine Men the same as last year.

Voted, That the subject of the care of force pumps be left to the board of Engineers.

Voted, To raise the sum of ten thousand dollars to pay the debt of the town.

Voted, That the Selectmen appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars for the support of Street Lights.

Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to borrow, on the credit of the town, a sum not exceeding seven thousand dollars, to aid families of volunteers and drafted men.

Voted, That Sumner Putnam be the authorized Agent to disburse the money to families of volunteers and drafted men,—he receiving no compensation for the same.

Voted, That the subject of a Hydrant to be located on the bank of Sugar River, be left with the Engineers; the town paying one half of the expenses, not exceeding one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

Voted, That William E. Tutherly be military Agent to provide soldiers to fill quotas for the town.

Voted, That the Town Treasurer be the authorized Agent to borrow all moneys for the use of the town, and execute notes in the name of the town for the same.

Voted, That the Slectmen be a Committee to make out orders, for the payment of State aid to families of volunteers and drafted men.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 8, 1865.

The Auditors of the Town beg leave respectfully to submit the following REPORT:—

The total valuation, including Polls, as assessed April 1, 1864, is \$2,107,514 00.

The rate of taxation the present year is \$1 08½ on \$100 00 in money, and 7½c. in labor on the highways.

The amount of taxes assessed, as follows, viz:

For State Tax,	\$7,970 00
County Tax,	3,005 18
Schooling as required by Law,	3,188 00
Legal expenses of Town by vote,	2,500 00
To pay Debts of Town,	5,000 00
Add about 4⅞ per cent.,	1,056 87
For Street Lights,	150 00
	————— \$22,870 05
School-House Tax in District No. 17,	1,154 25
“ “ “ “ “ “ 15,	209 26

RECEIPTS.

Or amount paid into Treasury, for year ending March 8, 1865.

Balance in Treasury, March, 1864,	\$4,371 70
From State, for money advanced on assignments of Soldiers' Bounties — first installment,	1,364 00
Same — second instalment,	265 00
S. P. Fiske, board of N. Jennison,	123 25
State R. R. Tax, 1863,	95 04
Railroad Tax,	91 50
State Literary Fund,	242 48
Town of Newport, Pauper acct.	34 71
“ Moultonboro “ “	7 83
“ Keene “ “	10 42
City of Concord, and Dr. Tolles,	7 61
County, on Pauper acct., Sept. 22, 1864,	1,034 02
Protective Soldiers' Association refunded,	600 00
Menagerie License,	30 00
Refunded from A. R. Cummings, dis. Pauper Bill	9 00
“ “ Town Newport, Pauper acct.,	14 00
For wood of A. Burrell, Town Hall,	3 00
Thos. R. Gowdey, Liquor Agent,	242 38

Rent of School Lands,	56 57
Wm. Ellis, Bounty money refunded,	300 00
James Goodwin, do.	150 00
S. E. Noyes,	150 00
J. W. Jewett,	150 00
M. L. Jewett,	150 00
H. C. Noyes,	150 00
D. W. Johnson,	150 00
M. C. Nichols,	150 00
G. F. Hubbard,	150 00
R. Spencer,	150 00
State Soldiers' Aid,	6,042 06
Town Farm,	132 94
Money borrowed of sundry persons, March, 1864,	1,200 00
April,	2,650 00
May,	650 00
June,	8,230 00
July,	18,592 98
August,	5,000 00
Sept.,	1,870 00
Oct.,	1,500 00
Nov.,	1,125 00
Dec.,	2,250 00
Jan., 1865,	3,536 00
Feb., 1865,	799 00
March,	4,100 00
Bill Taxes from Collector, 1863,	230 09
" " " " 1864,	13,293 31
Total,	81,453 89

DISBURSEMENTS.

Or amount paid out of Treasury :

For Repairs on Highways and Bridges,	357 26
Schooling,	3,514 97
For ringing bells, and Sexton's services,	91 58
Support Poor,	2,828 08
Abatement Taxes,	187 78
Building School Houses, District 17,	1,156 19
" " " " 15,	200 00
Paying debts of Town,	21,244 41
	<hr/> 29,580 27

Incidental Expenses.

B. S. Ballou, damages sustained on highway,	2 50
L. H. Chase, " " " "	6 75
O. Hart, " " " "	3 00

A. Burrill, services at Town Hall, &c.	10 65
J. Weber, printing,	12 08
N. Barcume, street lights,	18 00
J. S. Walker, printing,	7 50
T. R. Gowdey, mortgage book,	7 75
J. P. Upham, & Co., Safe key, &c.	2 44
A. Burrill, wood, &c. at Town Hall,	13 27
E. W. Tolles, stamps, stationery, &c.,	18 35
G. W. Merrifield, tax books, stationery, and telegraphing,	40 88
Ira Colby, Jr., Rent Selectmen's Room,	25 00
L. Roby, repairing Town House,	2 00
A. Chicione, street lights,	12 00
G. W. Merrifield, telegraphing,	4 45
Ide & Walker, printing,	4 00
T. D. Kimball, 2 settees for Town House,	8 00
G. W. Merrifield, telegraphing,	16 72
A. Stowell, wood for Town House,	5 00
C. F. Tibbels, repairs at Town House,	5 00
J. Miner, expenses on scales.	2 50
G. W. Stowell, Nails, &c.	4 17
D. W. Barney, wood for Town House,	5 00
F. Whitcomb, watering trough,	3 00
S. Putnam, street lamp,	3 42
White & Parker, service, &c. Harriman family,	5 00
Claremont Gas Co.	117 98
Wm. E. Tutherly, shingles Town House,	7 00
Ira Colby, Jr., legal advice,	12 00
" " " wood and lights Selectmen's Room,	13 00
Lewis Perry, printer's bill,	6 00
D. W. Barney, wood Town House,	6 00
Wm. Clark, stamps,	1 25
S. F. Rossiter, stamps and stationery,	7 12
C. M. Bingham, Stamps,	2 50
T. R. Gowdey, recording, births, &c.,	2 00

\$423 28

Cash paid S. Putnam, as Agent for Soldiers' Families.

March 6, 1864,	513 86	Oct. 1, 1863,	597 94
April 4, "	443 87	Nov. 1, "	598 77
May 2, "	560 26	Dec. 1, "	632 93
June 1, "	518 53	Jan'y 1, 1865,	578 66
July 2, "	520 00	Feb'y 1, "	466 65
Aug. 1, "	554 00	March 1, "	465 20
Sept. 1, "	592 30		
			<hr/>
			\$7042 97

Bounties paid to Volunteers by Selectmen, agreeably to Vote.

James Bias	300 00	William Armstrong	300 00
Samuel Henry	300 00	Thos. C. Parker	300 00
Isaac P. Rawson	300 00	Eugene L. Leet	150 00
Albert J. Austin	300 00	W. B. Kendall	300 00
Alba D. Abbott	300 00	Ard Scott	300 00
Amos E. Jennings	300 00	Fred A. Nichols	300 00
Edgar L. Read	200 00	Wm. H. Bigley	300 00
Richard D. Wynn	300 00	James H. Perkins	200 00
John Buswell	300 00	W. H. Moulton	300 00
Eugene P. Nash	200 00	Timothy Healey	300 00
Horace S. Smith	300 00	Cornelius H. Stone	300 00
Simeon Wormwood	300 00	Joshua Howe	50 00
Hilon Frost	300 00	Richard Landon	300 00
Moses Garfield	300 00	David L. Pettigrew	300 00
George W. Constantine	300 00	William Delany	200 00
W. J. Wadly	100 00	Alvaro Chaffin	100 00
L. M. P. Griswold	100 00	Albert Newcomb	100 00
D. H. Nichols	500 00	Walter Lowe	100 00
L. F. Read	500 00	Nelson Whitmore	500 00
C. L. Hadley	200 00	C. P. Hart	500 00
Al R. Short	200 00	W. H. Nutt	300 00
S. D. Norington	300 00	B. S. Noyes	500 00
Henry H. Niles	500 00	C. M. Judd	300 00
Russell Lovejoy	500 00	G. F. Colby	300 00
Oscar Booth	100 00	J. E. Bronson	300 00
J. H. Rugg	150 00	Orrin Ray	100 00
Joseph Casey	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	John Bannon	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
Francis Rogan	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	John Willson	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
William Lindsey	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Samuel Johnson	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
James Bennett	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Robert Hamilton	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
John W. Smith	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Edward Ryan	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
Richard Sweney	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	James Jones	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
Thomas Moor	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Henry Dick	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
Bernard Dolan	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	John Porter	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
David Carr	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	John Wallace	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
John Mason	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Charles Carroll	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
John Moran	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	Thomas Smith	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$
George Wilson	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$	William Casey	300 00
Edward Walker,	410 83 $\frac{1}{3}$		
			\$24 610 00

Bounties paid to Substitutes for drafted Men.

Joseph T. Little,	450 00	Josiah Straw,	450 00
Thomas Hart,	450 00	Jeremiah Wood,	300 00
Wm. H. Straw,	450 00	James F. Bartlett,	450 00
Myron L. Story,	450 00	L. F. Davis,	450 00
G. H. Dinsmore,	450 00	H. G. Sprague,	450 00
Freeman Dole,	450 00	George W. Nott,	450 00

\$5250 00

Bounties paid to Substitutes for enrolled Men.

S. E. Noyes,	450 00	H. C. Noyes,	450 00
J. Goodwin,	450 00	D. W. Johnson,	450 00
M. C. Nichols,	450 00	G. F. Hubbard,	450 00
Reuben Spencer,	450 00	S. F. Rossiter,	300 00
W. H. Patten,	300 00	G. J. Ainsworth,	300 00
E. W. Chase,	300 00	E. Neal,	300 00
J. C. Tappan,	300 00	J. W. Jewett,	450 00
M. L. Jewett,	450 00	John S. Farrington,	300 00
D. W. Barny,	300 00	L. M. Barny,	300 00
G. L. Balcom,	300 00	H. N. Hunton,	300 00
G. B. Heywood,	300 00	O. G. Newton,	300 00
C. A. Fisher,	300 00	W. B. Hitchcock,	300 00
Wm. B. T. Smith,	300 00	A. R. Proctor,	300 00
Josiah Wilson,	300 00	J. W. Chaffin,	300 00
C. L. Thomas,	300 00	S. P. Read,	300 00
M. Dustin,	300 00	J. A. Farwell,	300 00
G. H. Ayers,	300 00	W. B. Ellis,	300 00
Wm. H. Farwell,	300 00		

\$11,850 00

Filling Quotas of Town.

S. F. Rossiter, expenses to Portsmouth, &c.,	29 05
E. W. Tolles, " on Recruiting,	172 38
" " " " to Concord and Lebanon,	11 85
J. W. Hammond " to Lebanon,	1 80
H. L. Hubbard, " teams, &c.,	6 25
J. M. Heywood, " " " "	27 90
E. W. Wooddell, Recruiting,	23 50
Jonas White, expenses to Lebanon,	6 10
A. Dickinson, board Soldiers'	3 13
Wm. Clark, expenses to Concord and Lebanon,	12 00
E. W. Tolles, " Recruiting,	132 20
S. F. Rossiter, " " "	67 60
Eugene Lewis, " Lebanon,	2 10

\$495 86

Town Officers.

W. F. Evans, Superintending School Committee in 1863,	100 00
W. H. Smith, services as Constable,	9 00
Oliver Ayer, Super'ng School Committee in Dist. 17,	15 00
G. W. Blodgett, services as Constable,	4 50
W. H. Smith, " " "	5 00
W. E. Tutherly, " Selectman 1864,	7 50
Lewis Perry, " Collector,	125 00
Wm. Clark, " Selectman,	118 00
E. W. Tolles, " " "	222 00
S. F. Rossiter, " " "	196 00
C. M. Bingham, " Treasurer,	50 00
T. R. Gowdy, " Town Clerk,	43 83
<hr/>	
\$895 83	

Fire Department.

Engine men, for services in 1864,	335 00
J. P Upham & Co., repairs on Engines,	6 05
M. R. Emerson, for sundry bills paid,	29 74
<hr/>	
\$370 79	

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Amount of money raised by law,	3,188 00
Literary fund from State,	242 48
Rent of School Lands,	56 57
Railroad tax for 1863 and 1864,	27 88
<hr/>	
\$3,514 93	
Deduct for Sup. School Committees,	115 00
<hr/>	
3,399 93	

Which is divided \$50 00 to each district, and the remainder by the scholar — which gives about \$2 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ to each scholar:—

District.	No. Scholars.	Am't.	District.	No. Scholars.	Am't.
1	230	586 47	10	10	73 32
2	43	150 30	11	34	129 30
3	30	119 97	12	13	80 32
4	47	159 62	13	17	89 64
5	44	152 62	14	22	101 31
6	20	96 64	15	116	321 50
7	35	131 63	16	12	77 98
8	20	96 64	17	257	649 44
9	43	150 29	18	39	140 96
			19	18	91 98

PAUPER ACCOUNT.

Or cost of supporting the Poor :

Am't of property at Town Farm, March, 1864,	2,322 73
Due from County for support of poor,	104 35
For board N. Jennison,	27 00
Paid Fletcher's salary,	280 00
By Selectmen to aid Poor,	2,508 08
S. F. Rossiter, Overseer Poor,	40 00
Int. on valuation Farm,	120 00
	<hr/> \$5,402 16

Cr. as follows :—

Am't received for County paupers,	1,034 02
Due from " Town Plainfield,	889 67
Keene,	91 85
Charlestown,	18 92
Cornish,	13 13
	7 75
Received from N. Jennison and Towns,	206 82
Refunded by T. B. Fletcher,	132 94
Personal property at Town Farm,	2,456 59
	<hr/> \$4,851 69
Cost of supporting the poor,	<hr/> 550 47

LIQUOR AGENT'S REPORT.

FOR MARCH 1, 1865.

Amount Liquors on hand, March 1, 1864,	645 53
Amount Liquors on hand, March 1, 1865,	365 23
	<hr/> 280 30
Paid into Treasury,	242 38
	<hr/>
Loss to the Town,	\$37 92
Amount received for sales of Liquors and Casks,	1,916 56
Paid for Liquors,	1,335 52
Freight,	32 49
License and Tax,	56 17
into Treasury,	242 38
Agent's salary,	250 00
	<hr/> 1,916 56

LIABILITIES.

Am't due from Town for money borrowed,	78,556 63
Deduct am't due from County on Pauper acct.	889 67
Balance in Treasury,	334 37
Due from Collector, 1864,	120 65
1863,	132 66
Amount due from State for Soldiers' aid,	6,085 24
Various Towns for support	
of Poor,	131 65
	<hr/> \$ 7,694 24
Indebtedness of Town over and above Cash	
Assets,	<hr/> 70,862 39

The Town has also advanced the sum of about \$7,000 00, for which amount they have the assignments of Soldiers' bounties — of which they have reason to expect to realize a portion.

JAMES GOODWIN, }
 SAMUEL C. BAILEY. } *Auditors.*

Chief Engineer's Report.

The organization of the Fire Department at the beginning of the year was as follows:

The required number of Firemen having been appointed, Companies were formed and attached, viz: No 3, "Deluge Engine," thirty-eight men; R. H. Jewett, foreman. No 4, thirty-six men; G. H. Stowell, foreman. The regular meetings have been held and well attended. The machines, hose, &c., have been kept in good repair, and ready for service at all times, and are now in complete order, with nearly full ranks in both companies.

A Volunteer Company was also formed, attached to the small but valuable Engine No 1, twenty-five men, without pay, H. A. Perry foreman. The good service always rendered at a fire by this machine fully justifies the small expense necessary for keeping it in order.

Failing to organize a Hook and Ladder Company, W. B. Henry was appointed to have charge of this arm of the service, in connection with the board of Engineers.

The Hydrant, under the care of B. P. Gilman, has been kept in perfect order and fully answers all expectations of its capabilities—the late fire on Main Street giving a practical illustration of its efficiency; the slight delay in getting it to work being caused by a partial freezing of the wheel which supplies the power—a circumstance which could not occur except in the coldest weather, and over which the Department could have no control.

In addition to the Hydrant and Reservoirs for a supply of water, the force pumps in the different manufacturing establishments can now be used in connection with the town hose,—couplings having been procured at a small expense for that purpose,—thereby supplying a want long felt in some localities.

There have been three alarms and two fires during the year, in each instance the Department promptly responded to the call and performed effective service.

The expenses the past year are as follows:

Amount paid for Couplings,	\$16,30
" " Repairs,	8,00
" " Stewards' bills, wood, &c.,	24,16
Add am't that will be due firemen, say	370,00
	<hr/> \$418,46
Deduct am't received for old Couplings,	18,72

Whole expense for the year, \$399,74

The property belonging to the town—connected with the Department and effective in case of fire—consists of the two first class suction Engines beforementioned, well supplied with axes, shovels, ironbars, rubber suits for the Hosemen, &c., one hose-carriage for each Engine, and nearly 1200 feet of good hose. The small Hand Engine and hose-carriage, attached to which is about 50 feet of hose and 11 buckets. One hose-carriage and 300 feet first quality hose, expressly for the Hydrant service. One hook and ladder-carriage, well supplied with hooks, ladders, axes, iron bars, ropes and chains. Six capacious Reservoirs, capable of holding from three to four hundred barrels of water—all full.

I have only to add, it is believed that every apparatus is in complete repair, and in good order for service at call.

Respectfully submitted,

M. R. EMERSON, *Chief Engineer.*

Claremont, March 14, 1865.

REPORT

OF THE

Superint'ng School Committee of Claremont.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—

The Superintendent of Schools, in compliance with the requirements of the law, submits the following Report:

There are in town nineteen School Districts, twenty-five schools, and fifty-nine terms have been in session the past year. These were divided into twenty-two Summer, twelve Fall, and twenty-five Winter terms.

Thirty-five teachers have been employed, only four of whom were males.

The whole number of scholars attending school within the year, is seven hundred and ninety-nine; average attendance four hundred and fifty-nine. According to the returns of the Selectmen, the whole number of scholars in town is ten hundred and eighty-two.

\$3,477,55 have been appropriated for schooling the past year,—giving to each scholar about \$2,33 1-2. The increased expenses of supporting schools demand a larger amount.

The above statements include District No. 17, which, being under the "Somersworth Act," will not be regarded in the following.

It is gratifying to report that no school has been a failure; but while some have been of little real profit, others, so far as our system will admit, have been model schools. What should make this difference? Until we have a High School, education in Claremont will attain no lofty eminence; but in a community like ours where all might enjoy nearly equal advantages, for one district to have a school uninterrupted in its prosperity, while in an adjoining one it is of little or no value, is alike useless and disgraceful. But it is not difficult to account for this.

In one district a lively interest is taken in their school. They provide suitable buildings, apparatus and teachers. They visit the school-room, sustain the teacher and encourage their children to prompt and noble efforts. It is needless to say, the result is a good school, and the parents witness with pride their children receiving that early impress which gives character to future life: And yet how easy to be attained!

Another district pays little regard to the welfare of the school, as their ill accommodations and general indifference testify. We are not surprised to find in such places poor schools, and the children growing up in vice and ignorance.

In noticing a few evils that retard the progress of our schools, I shall mention only those which, it is hoped, local circumstances may correct. In doing this, we are not unmindful that we traverse hackneyed grounds.

The advantages of a neat and commodious school-house hardly need comment. For a practical example of this you are referred to District No. 17. Most of those among us answer a good purpose, and some would do honor to any town in New England. A few, however, ought to make their respective districts blush with shame.

There is a sad deficiency of apparatus in our school-rooms. Few have sufficiently large black-boards. The dimensions of these should allow every member of the largest class in arithmetic to perform examples at once. Much valuable time is lost, when this is otherwise. Several schools are not provided with Outline Maps. This is a loss they are poorly able to sustain. It is difficult to teach Geography without them. A globe and Webster's Unabridged Dictionary are also valuable additions.

A matter of still more importance, yet too frequently disregarded, is the judicious selection of teachers. Without a competent teacher, no school can be a success; with a good one few will be failures. For the major part of our unprofitable schools the Prudential Committee is responsible. The Superintendent, it is true, has a duty to perform. He is made the legal judge of the qualifications of the candidates; but no one can fail to see, that between a person barely legally qualified and one of superior excellence is a wide difference, and one which the Prudential Committee alone can control. This office of all others is the most essential, and no man whose business or disposition will prevent the proper fulfillment of its duties, should have the responsible trust.

In the choice of teachers, let the Committee start early, and procure one of established reputation; or if he is obliged to employ one of no experience, see that he possesses energy, good morals, shrewdness and determined disposition. The price of wages is hardly worthy of consideration. One month of good schooling is worth an indefinite amount of an inferior quality.

A lack among teachers is *force*. No drone can teach school. Nothing has more truth, than, "As is the teacher, so is the school." With literary attainments, the useful teacher must combine enthusiasm, virtuous principles, skill in controlling a school, in imparting instruction, and in making mental impressions. We have just such, and the fruits of their labors are abundant. The districts that have them, can not afford to lose them. Use them well, pay them liberally, and keep them as long as possible. Any that have not yet been fortunate in obtaining one, rest not till you accomplish the desired object.

A more hearty co-operation of parents with the teacher is imperatively necessary to reap the benefits which our schools are capable of yielding. It is not supposed that parents *feel* no interest in the education of their children: but what good does *feeling* do, if you never show it? There are happy exceptions; but we have instances, where, for a whole term, not a single parent has crossed the threshold of the school-room. We have instances where parents allow their children to be absent nearly half the time. We have instances, where, from causeless prejudice, scholars leave the school and are upheld by the parents who abuse the teacher and exert their influence against him.

The methods of instruction adopted by our teachers vary in plan and usefulness. The larger part have been thorough and efficient. Some have failed to dwell on *principles*—to teach their pupils to know the *reason* of every step. They aim at result, without knowing *why* their work is correct. They are content to ask the questions in the book, are confined closely to its pages, and have no mind of their own. Such are no teachers. To be useful a teacher must have an original mind, and be able to produce something of his own at every recitation. He should make his pupils self-reliant and practical. It not unfrequently happens that a child can perform nearly every example in his arithmetic, and yet a common business transaction will com-

pletely frustrate him, because it is not in the book. This is the fault of his teacher, and a grievous one. To fit scholars for the realities of life, and not make them mere mechanical machines, should be the aim of the instructor.— That their capacities may be developed, place them in imagined business positions; give them practical examples such as selectmen, bankers, merchants, farmers, mechanics, &c., have to perform. We would have scholars know all that is in their book, but not confined to it. They should be able to apply what they know.

In times like the present, love of country and appreciation of its blessings, a knowledge of its Constitution and its Laws, should be impressed upon our youth in the school-room. Singing is a most delightful and profitable exercise. Declamations, Compositions and Map-Drawing are also highly useful.

The above points have been enjoined upon teachers and scholars the past year, and in many cases with good effect.

The need of a High School is sadly felt in many ways. Much is said of the propriety of allowing the higher branches in our common schools. They interfere much with the common English branches, and rob the younger members of the school of that attention from the teacher which they ought to receive. But there are many scholars in Claremont whose attainments call for other than our more common studies, but circumstances forbid their attending an Academy. A High School would remedy the evil; but we believe our more advanced scholars should not be deprived of school privileges entirely, and have allowed the accommodations of the schools to be divided between the older and younger scholars.

The evils of absence, tardiness and whispering are among the most baneful features that detract from the usefulness of our schools. At the commencement of the Winter terms these were brought before nearly all the schools, with an earnest appeal to correct the habits. The promise of inserting the names of each scholar who complied with the request, was made, and the result is cheering. We regret that some of the teachers did not provide us with a list of these, consequently the names found at the conclusion of this Report will be incomplete.

We can but remind our teachers that several registers are not lawfully made out. The questions on pages 6 and 7 should be answered, as the Superintendent is required to furnish statistics for the State, gathered from the register.

A brief account of the several schools will now be given:

DISTRICT NO. 1.

This district suffers from want of better accommodations. The building on Broad St. might be made, with a little expense, neat and convenient for two schools. The room occupied by the Primary department is poorly fitted to the health and comfort of small children, and reflects little credit on this large and wealthy district.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.—The Summer term was taught by Miss Ellen M. Hartwell. She is a teacher of good qualifications,—places the standard of a good school high, and is anxious to make her's a model one. In any other district in town her efforts would undoubtedly have been of marked success: but here they were not wholly satisfactory to herself or the district.

Miss Harriet S. Whitney, of N. Y., had charge of the fall term. She is not a sufficiently strict disciplinarian for *this* school, without which no school is complete.

The Winter term was under the instruction of Miss Mary A. Vaughan, of Taftsville, Vt., who conducted this difficult school in that able and happy manner which few female teachers can surpass. Miss V. is deserving of all

praise. The school commenced under some forebodings; but under her skillful management order and decorum was restored, and all the progress that could in reason be asked was made.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.—Miss Lizzie A. Holden has taught this school during the year. She won the esteem of her pupils, and each term gave evidence of improvement over the preceding one. We noticed here some profitable exercises in map-drawing.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.—This school has been in charge of Miss Jennie M. Jones for the past two years. We have not witnessed that quiet good order found in our other Primary Departments. This may be owing in part to the bad arrangement of the room they occupy. Miss Jones is an earnest worker, and the school has made commendable improvement in the studies pursued.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Several scholars, from some petty dislike, left the school during the Winter. It is a source of regret that parents will allow their children to injure themselves beyond recovery; but it is cheering to realize that they only are harmed. Miss Martha M. Patterson, of Newbury, taught the school both Summer and Winter. She possesses eminent qualifications for a valuable teacher, and the result of her labors was highly satisfactory to the Committee. A contribution to prolong the school shows the good feeling of most of the district.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Miss Ellen S. Hayden, teacher for the Summer. She managed apparently to the satisfaction of the district. Miss Isabella L. Putnam, of Cornish, taught the Winter term. She is an energetic and efficient teacher, and her school a complete success.

DISTRICT No. 4.

It has been said that "The school-house is an index of the enterprise of a District." This one surely shows a low ebb of school-interest on the part of those who oppose building a new one. It is wholly unfit for use. Miss Maria L. Hart, a beginner, had charge of the first term. There was not great thoroughness, but experience may make her a useful instructor. The Winter term was taught by Mr. S. T. Smith with zeal and ability. The instruction was thorough and accurate, and the progress marked. We found here an excellent class in Bourdon's Algebra and Geometry.

DISTRICT No. 5.

A set of Outline Maps would add interest to this school. There have been three terms of school taught by Miss Belle M. Lewis, with continued profit. The Summer and Fall terms were especially worthy of praise.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Miss Jennie A. Johnson, teacher for the Summer, and Miss Mary E. Stowell, for the Winter. The Summer term commenced under favorable omens, but closed prematurely by reason of sickness of the teacher. The Winter was carried on in a thorough and fruitful manner, without a single instance of tardiness.

DISTRICT No. 7.

The steady progress of this school during the year proves the worth of a capable teacher. Miss Mary J. Sanborn taught both terms, and is among our most enthusiastic and profitable instructors.

DISTRICT No. 8.

This is a small school, taught for three terms by Miss Fannie Hubbard in a pleasant, social and instructive manner.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Miss Ida E. Cushman, of Chester, Vt., had charge of this school in the Summer. More life and thorough drilling on principles is necessary to make a school what it ought to be. Mr. L. H. Gowing, teacher for the Winter. The instruction was not the most accurate; but order was maintained and fair progress made.

DISTRICT No. 10.

This district has a very poor school-house, and small school. Miss Isabella M. Fletcher, of Cornish, taught the first term, and Miss Jennie A. Johnson, the second—both with success.

DISTRICT No. 11.

There have been three valuable terms in this district, taught by Miss Susan B. Carlton, who has managed the school with tact, and to the satisfaction of parents, scholars and Committee.

DISTRICT No. 12.

This is a very pretty school; was taught in Summer by Miss Martha M. Ellis, an energetic, faithful and competent young teacher. Miss Louisa M. Way had charge of the Winter term. The satisfactory manner in which this teacher served the same district last year has been sustained.

DISTRICT No. 13.

This school has been in session only during the Winter. It is small but well advanced. The teacher, Mr. George P. Rossiter, is apt and thorough, and well qualified for teaching.

DISTRICT No. 14.

Miss Cassie C. Freeman, teacher, both Summer and Winter. The school was quiet and orderly, and very good proficiency made.

DISTRICT No. 15.

A little outlay, last Spring, added much to the beauty and attraction of the school-house in this district. The Grammar Department was taught, during the Summer and Fall, by Miss Annie E. Bliss. The school was found at all times in the most perfect order. Miss Bliss is an excellent disciplinarian, and the improvement of all the scholars present was creditable to teacher and pupils.

Miss Susie Whipple, of Charlestown, taught the Winter school. She possesses aptness and skill, both to govern and instruct, and the result of her efforts was perfect success.

The Primary School has been under the care of Miss Paulina L. Grow for several successive years. The district may well prize this teacher. It is enough to say, she has rare talents for educating young children.

DISTRICT No. 16.

There has been only one Winter term here; Miss Clara F. Randall, teacher. It was her first experience, but the school was well managed, and we see nothing to prevent her becoming a useful addition to our list of teachers.

DISTRICT No. 18.

This school has been in a flourishing condition during the year. Miss Maria L. Dunklee, teacher. Sickness of a parent obliged her to leave the school three weeks before its close. Miss Martha L. Moore took her place, with good effect.

DISTRICT No. 19.

This is not a forward school, and had no Summer term. Miss Annis E. Gilmore taught, with favorable results.

The following are the names of scholars who have not been absent, tardy, or whispered during the Winter:

Geo. W. Graves, Ellen Winne, Frank G. Winne, Hattie A. Brown, Lizzie M. Nichols, Ida F. Nichols, Henry J. G. Blake, Lewis W. Sanborn, Sylvester Dunsmore, James B. Colby, Sarah B. Colby, George O. Johnson, Carrie McLaughlin, Ida A. Baker, Abbie Densmore, Willie H. Drewry, Mary E. Andrews, Addie J. Johnson, Mabel Ross, Eunice Ross, Nettie Emerson, Maria Chase, Anna M. Lane, Emma R. Lane.

O. B. WAY,

Superintending School Committee of Clarentont.

REPORT

Of the Superint'ng School Committee of Dist. No. 17.

The Superintending School Committee of District No. 17 presents the following Report:

The entire number of scholars attending school in the district during the past year has been 204,—of which, 97 were males and 107 females. The year has been divided into three terms of ten, six and eleven weeks respectively. It is deeply to be regretted that, in a district containing so many pupils, there should be only three terms in a year, with an aggregate of 27 weeks. The brief time which each pupil can devote to study in our common schools ought to inspire parents with a purpose to make their advantages as ample as possible, to keep them in school as large a share of the time as is consistent with the health of the scholars.

District No. 17 may well congratulate itself upon two facts at least: First, the character and condition of its school edifices, which, for all purposes pertaining to common school education, are equal to, and in many respects in advance of any other in the County. Second, the employment of an energetic, earnest Prudential Committee, through whose constant supervision the property of the district has been carefully preserved from harm, beyond the ordinary wear; good teachers have been secured, and when secured encouraged in their work by his frequent visits and timely advice. It is doubtful if another instance can be found in the entire town in which a Prudential Committee has made 28 visits to the school-room during the year. For his self-denying interest and excellent management he is deserving the warmest thanks of the district.

Pearl Street School.

This school has been, for the entire year, under the care of Miss Martha L. Wightman. Miss W. is an experienced teacher, and devoted herself to her work with great fidelity and marked success. The respect of the scholars was secured and retained, and an unflagging interest kept up during all the terms. The teacher was exceedingly happy in her method of teaching Intellectual Arithmetic. Her class presented decidedly the best appearance of any observed in the entire County, both in thorough analysis and ready solution.

Terrace School.

That veteran teacher, Miss Mary E. Dymond, was retained in this school for the past year. Her well-earned reputation for aptness to teach and a special adaptation to the Primary School, was in no wise impaired during the season. She succeeds, in a remarkable degree, in securing the confidence and affection of the "little folks," and ruling them by the law of kindness. The discipline of the school was perfect, and the progress made all that could be asked for.

Intermediate.

The Summer and Fall terms were taught by Miss Lizzie L. Sargent. The school is the most difficult of management of the four. The scholars are in just that transition state when, in many instances at least, they require more effort to induce proper habits of study and to awaken their ambition than at any other period of their school-life. This was Miss Sargent's first engagement in this district; but she acquitted herself to the general satisfaction of all parties.

The Winter term was taught by Miss Lizzie S. Holbrook. Miss H. devoted herself to the work with the utmost interest. The Committee found occasion, in the final examination, to refer to the listless indifference and inattention to study which marked some of the pupils who are old enough to understand the real object of attending school; but no fault is to be ascribed to the teacher.

The order was remarkably good, the teacher being able to record at the close of the term, that only three of the girls whispered during the entire school—and they but once—and only four of the boys after the second week.

Grammar School.

The Summer and Fall terms were taught by Miss Lizzie S. Holbrook. The earnest zeal which marked her efforts in the Intermediate Department were equally observable here, and the scholars made corresponding progress.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. O. B. Way. Mr. W. is too well known, both as Superintending Committee of the schools in town and as a teacher, to need commendation. It is rare to find a school in which there is so much enthusiasm, such devotion to study, and such deference to the slightest wish of the teacher, as was observed under his instruction.

How much of this delightful spirit is to be ascribed to teacher, and how much to pupils, may be difficult to decide. All acted well their part, and the result was excellent progress in every department of study.

Respectfully submitted,

S. G. KELLOGG,

Superintending School Committee, Dist. No. 17.

Claremont, March 15, 1865.

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